

TUESDAY

July 13

1999

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County Life...

June Anderson invites you to "play house" with her as part of the Minden Home & Garden Tour

White water rodeo...

Gull River Festival gives kayakers a wild ride

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Bouquet of design...

Chris Stender opens new fibre art show at Agnes Jamieson Gallery

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Taking aim at the Highland Games...



Members of the Volunteer Battalion of the Incorporated Militia of Upper Canada demonstrate how battles used to be fought during their historical re-enactments at Saturday's Highland Games. The

event at Head Lake Park also included traditional heavy events, performances by pipe and drum bands and competitions for Scottish Dancers. See more photos on page 8.

Speak French:

■ Mothers want other parents to support their bid to bring French Immersion to Haliburton County

PETER DOWNS

Staff Reporter

Elementary students in the Highlands should have the option to do their schooling almost entirely in French, as they do in other parts of the district board, say two Haliburton mothers.

Nancy Ballantyne and Karen Saunders want trustees to start a French Immersion program in at least one Haliburton County school, beginning in September of next year.

Ballantyne and Saunders know parents tried unsuccessfully in the past to convince the former Haliburton County

board to offer French Immersion.

But they're hopeful the new school board's policy of equal access to equal programs across the district will give them a better chance this time around.

Currently, parents can enrol their kids in French Immersion classes at two elementary schools in Lindsay and three in Muskoka. One high school in Muskoka also offers the program.

The board has extra funding in its budget for French Immersion. Ballantyne and Saunders are trying to gain enough support from other parents to justify asking trustees to

spend some of that money to bring the program to the Highlands.

Students across the district begin receiving French instruction in Grade 4 for one 40-minute period per day.

In a French Immersion program, children would receive all of their instruction in French, beginning in Kindergarten. English is introduced in the higher grades gradually until children receive roughly half of their instruction in each language.

Saunders and Ballantyne feel children can learn French more easily and more fluently by

See **Busing** page 4

Highlands gets its own OPP detachment

PETER DOWNS

Staff Reporter

Haliburton County's stand-alone OPP detachment will provide greater stability and "custom-tailored" policing to residents of the Highlands, officials said at an opening ceremony Friday.

The newly named Haliburton Highlands OPP Detachment, operating out of the force's Minden office, is no longer tied to Victoria County through a joint Minden-Coboconk Detachment.

Officers with the re-aligned detachment serve only within the county's borders. Bicroft

See **Stand-alone** page 4

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Critical shortage of blood lends urgency to next Tuesday's clinic

THE SUPPLY OF O POSITIVE BLOOD has now hit an extremely critical low level, Canadian Blood Services reports. In fact, it would not take much to completely exhaust the supply for Central Ontario. "We are facing an emergency situation trying to support the needs of 59 hospitals in Central Ontario," says Michele Leroux, director of donor services for the Toronto Blood Centre. "Some surgeries are being delayed or prioritized and we will have difficulty supporting cases requiring O positive blood." Healthy people between the ages of 17 and 71 can give blood every 56 days, although first time donors must be younger than 61. There will be a blood donor clinic at the Haliburton Legion on Mountain Street on Tuesday, July 20 from 12 noon until 7 p.m.. Everyone is urged to attend.

A few weeks ago, we had an e-mail from Melva Robbins of Alberta, who was researching her family tree. She mentioned that one branch of the family had the surname of Kellett, so we gave here the name of Gladys Kellett Wruth in Minden. Mrs. Robbins immediately wrote to Mrs. Wruth, and as she tells us in a recent e-mail, Mrs. Wruth and her son Gareth Kellett both contacted her within days. "We had a lovely chat and Gareth and I have been exchanging e-mails ever since. We are related - his grandfather Stanley was half-brother to my grandfather Douglas, so we have lots of material to exchange." It continues to amaze us how much smaller the world is now that communication across a continent is so easy...

Monmouth residents and cottagers who know they'll need help in times of emergency such as a power outage are reminded they should register their names and special needs at the municipal office. This will help emergency crews provide the fastest and most effective

here & there

— news and events worth noting

service should disaster ever strike. To find out more about the municipality's emergency plan, which includes setting up the Lloyd Watson Centre as a gathering place, please phone the municipality or John Goverde at 448-2179.

Cooks, lovers of good food and history buffs can whet their appetites all in one place on July 17. The Muskoka Pioneer Village in Huntsville is hosting the Cookbook Caper from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. Along with a sale of new and old cookbooks and pre-serves, there will be demonstrations by Ontario Historical Society members on such things as corn dollies, napkin folding for the Victorian period, summer pudding and Victorian sweetmeats. This is a fundraiser to support the Commanda General Store Museum Business Study. For more information contact the OHS at 416-226-9011 or Muskoka Pioneer Village at 705-789-7576.

Friends of the Osprey is hosting a cruise out of Lindsay on July 17 and 18. The cruise will go down the Scugog River to Sturgeon Lake, passing five osprey nests en route and providing opportunities for viewing many other birds. Experts will be on board to answer any questions. Tickets, which are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children, should be purchased in advance. For more information, please call 705-738-6706 or 1-800-663-2628.

You can "Hallmark the Millennium" by drawing or writing the card of the century. A contest sponsored by Hallmark Cards invites people to develop an original design and/or verse "to convey a message of reflection, reconnection, hope or aspiration about Canada and the millennium." But you'll have to work fast - the contest closes July 31. Entry forms are available where Hallmark Cards are sold or by visiting Canada Post's

Federal government makes several tax changes

As part of the broad-based tax changes announced in the last two federal budgets, the three percent surtax will be eliminated effective July 1st.

Also effective July 1st, the amount of income Canadians can receive tax-free will be increased by \$175 to \$675 for all taxpayers. This will raise the basic amount to \$7,131 and the spousal and equivalent-to-spouse amounts to \$6,055.00.

The 1998 and 1999 budget measures mean that a typical two-earner family with two children and an income of \$50,000 will have its taxes reduced by \$550, or 15 percent. The tax burden on a typical one-earner family with two children and an income of \$30,000.00 will fall by \$500, with the result that it will no longer pay any

net federal tax.

Other changes effective July 1st include low-income families with children receiving higher payments as the maximum level of the National Child Benefit (NCB) supplement goes up by \$180. Maximum payments under the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) will reach \$1,805 for the first child and \$1,605.00 for each additional child. The supplement will rise by a further \$170 in July 2000.

"These tax changes will put more money into the hands of families with children - a key priority for the federal government," says John O'Reilly, MP for Brock-Haliburton-Victoria.

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Tuesday, July 13, 1999
Page 3

echo news this week

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Wanted: More visitors any time other than summer

PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

With a population that swells more than sevenfold counting visitors, Haliburton County has a "tremendous" tourist market, but it has to plot out a well-staged, realistic marketing strategy to tap into it more effectively, say consultants.

The county also needs to focus more effort on luring visitors during the slower seasons to realize a significant boost in its economy, members of the county's marketing committee were told last Tuesday.

"We think there is potential to attract some new capital development and facilities as time goes on," said John Murray, of The Randolph Group Management Consultants, Inc. "We feel there are opportunities available to expand."

Murray and Don Baxter, of Baxter and Associates, are putting together a five-year comprehensive marketing plan for the county.

Last week they held the first public meeting in the process to gather input for the \$60,000 plan. The cost of the plan has been covered by Human Resources Development Canada.

Audience member Godfrey Tyler of Waverly Brook Farm emphasized the importance of increasing tourism during "shoulder seasons."

Without investing heavily on improving the county's infrastructure, it would be difficult to handle many more summer visitors, he said.

"Not many more cars will fit on the main streets of Haliburton or Minden in the summer."

Murray said the county benefits from first-class outdoor centres, such as the Leslie M. Frost Centre and Haliburton Forest, as well as its proximity to Algonquin Park.

Developing a southern access into the park within the county's borders, as has been proposed, would clearly be an "excellent opportunity" for the Highlands to realize spin-off benefits, he said.

However, the county faces challenges because there is no

major highway linking it to the Greater Toronto Area and beyond into the U.S.

"That's why marketing is so important," Murray said.

The Internet should play a large role in any initiative to market the Highlands as a destination for people to live, work or visit, said Baxter.

More people are using the 'net to research vacation spots and book their holidays directly.

"In a very short period of time the Internet has changed the way people are looking for information," he said.

Provided the county assembles a marketing plan that's "not overly grandiose" and follows it, it should lead to more business opportunities, said Murray.

One of the most effective ways of ensuring visitors keep returning is to deliver great customer service, said Peter Overington.

"When people are here we have to give them more than the minimum. It's got to be more than they expected all the time."

"The days of giving people minimum value for their hard-earned dollar are out the window."

The consultants plan to gather more input at a second public meeting in August before submitting their final plan to the county in September.



NURSES ON STRIKE:

Seventy Registered Practical Nurses who work for the VON in Peterborough-Victoria-Haliburton went on strike last week. Their union blames the new provincial government's new funding formula, which forces agencies such as the VON to cut costs in order to win contracts. As a result, nursing staff are expected to take concessions to make the bid viable. The RPNs have previously taken a wage roll-back, which they want restored, plus a \$1 an hour increase; there have been no wage increases for eight years. Several RPNs were on Haliburton's main street last week, distributing information sheets.

Falling tree branch kills Uxbridge man

A fluke accident near Moore Falls took the life of a 52-year-old Uxbridge man.

On July 3 at noon, John Wayne Barton was cutting down birch trees with two other men on a

property on Black Lake.

A large part of one tree broke off from the top, striking Barton on the head and throwing him into the lake.

An off-duty nurse who was

nearly performed CPR but there were no vital signs, the Haliburton Highlands OPP reports. Barton died on the scene from his head injuries.

Alcohol was not a factor.



AS BEAUTIFUL AS A PAINTING:

Jane Miller's gardening efforts this past spring were certainly appreciated by these watercolour painters who converged at the Pine Street property to capture the beauty of Miller's garden on paper. In the foreground is the morning's achievement of instructor Pauline Holancin, who worked with each student individually, including Paradise Cove cottager Madeleine Boillard, centre. Hollyhocks, lilies, daisies - all were as vibrant on paper as they were in living colour.

Haliburton Rotary



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The theme for this year's event
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Stand-alone police detachment should provide more stability, county council hopes

from page 1

and Cardiff don't fall within the detachment's jurisdiction. They continue to be covered by the Bancroft OPP.

The detachment's role change took effect on Canada Day, but the official opening ceremony was held Friday morning.

As a fine drizzle fell on an audience of county politicians, OPP officers and others, riding MPP Chris Hodgson called the occasion "a historic day for Haliburton County."

Despite the detachment's name change and recent move to a new office, Hodgson said officers continue to provide "the same excellent service" to county residents.

Lutterworth Reeve Jim McMahon, chair of the county's Community Police Advisory Council, thanked municipal politicians for supporting the proposal for a stand-alone detachment and OPP officials who paid attention to the county's concerns.

"We have stability within the Haliburton Highlands Detachment," he said. "We have officers living here and working here who want to be here, and that means a lot."

OPP Commissioner Gwen Boniface said the detachment is symbolic of the new partnerships the OPP is forming with municipal governments, which now pay the tab for policing.

"This service is custom-tailored to meet your needs."

Based on the number of people who braved Friday's rain to attend the ceremony, Commissioner Boniface said she's confident there's the kind of community support needed to ensure the detachment's success.

The detachment will continue to receive support from the force's central region headquarters and neighbouring detachments, she said.

Staff Sergeant Bob Walli said "without exception" all mem-

bers of the detachment are looking forward to their new arrangement.

In March, county council requested a stand-alone detachment with a minimum of one staff sergeant, four sergeants, 24 constables and two clerical support

workers.

OPP officials have agreed to provide all of the staff requested, but it will cost municipalities more to get the number of constables they want.

The OPP has estimated the stand-alone detachment will cost approximately \$1.67-million for 1999, based on a complement of 22 constables. The actual cost will be determined by the number of calls over the course of the year.

If municipalities want an additional two constables, they'll have to chip in another \$200,000.

However, they're hoping to qualify for provincial funding to cover half the cost of the two additional positions.

This service is custom-tailored to meet your needs

**OPP COMMISSIONER
GWEN BONIFACE**



PRIDE OF PLACE:

On Friday morning, Haliburton County got its first stand-alone OPP detachment. Taking part in the unveiling of the sign are, from left: Staff Sgt. Bob Walli, MPP Chris Hodgson, OPP Commissioner Gwen Boniface, and local police committee chairman Jim McMahon, reeve of Lutterworth.

Busing a major issue for French Immersion

from page 1

beginning earlier and receiving more instruction.

"In my mind, the children are already so English structured by Grade 4 that it's just too late," said Saunders, who has a five year-old son and six-year-old daughter at Stuart Baker School. "I think it's better if we start them at an earlier age."

"There's an opportunity for kids to learn French later in life, but I find it's easier for them when they're younger ... They're more like sponges then," said Ballantyne, whose daughter is nearly two years old.

Ballantyne and Saunders each have several young nieces and nephews who are in French Immersion programs with other school boards and are fluent in the language.

The two moms pointed to many studies that indicate students can benefit from learning additional languages. They can develop skills in problem-solving, creative thinking, communication and flexibility.

"Some people say why do you need to be fluent in French in Haliburton, but the idea is not to look at the immediate benefits of speaking French in Haliburton. It's to look at the cognitive and

academic benefits of learning another language," said Balantyne.

In addition to academic benefits, students who are fluent in French and English will have more job opportunities when it's time to plan their careers, she noted.

Ballantyne and Saunders don't want the school board to implement French Immersion, if it means other programs must be cut.

"We're just hoping it can be added on because we were told there's funding there. We don't want this to come at the expense of other programs," said Saunders.

The board would have to consider many factors before agreeing to start French Immersion in Haliburton County, said Dale Robinson, the board's superintendent of schools.

"We'd have to see the interest is here and that the people are here."

And while it's "somewhat true" that the board has some room in its French Immersion budget, transportation costs would have to be factored in, Robinson said.

In Victoria County, all the students in the French Immersion

program are bused to one Lindsay school from Kindergarten to Grade 6 and another school for Grades 7 and 8.

It would be costly to set up a similar program in Haliburton County.

"If we had to bus students from across the county, we would run into problems because our transportation budget is already short," said Robinson.

But the biggest challenge would likely be trying to attract a teacher, he said.

Since the province introduced an early-retirement incentive for teachers last year, it has been particularly hard to find French teachers.

"Teachers of French Immersion are very, very scarce right now," said Robinson. "In order to expand the program anywhere, we'd have to ensure we have a teacher first."

Ballantyne and Saunders are trying to gain support from other parents before approaching the school board with a formal request to bring French Immersion to the Highlands.

For more information, Karen Saunders can be reached at 457-9486 or by e-mail at: cmeadow@halhinet.on.ca

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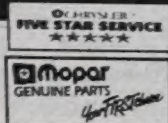
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Minden opts not to rock boat with dock request

PETER DOWNS

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at Thursday's meeting of Anson, Hindon and Minden council.

Minden councillors denied a request to locate a private dock on a municipal road allowance, fearing it could open up a floodgate to "a lot of problems."

Jack Saunders asked permission to put a small dock on a road allowance adjacent to his Lake Kashagawigamog property, which doesn't go all the way to the lake.

But councillors are worried allowing the practice could lead to people setting up docks on road allowances in front of other residents' property.

"To me (the issue) is a nightmare," said Reeve Jeanne Anthon.

Councillor Daryl Moore noted other municipalities are already experiencing the problem. On Stanhope's Maple Lake there are a number of docks built on municipal road allowances in front of cottages and homes that were not installed by the property owners.

Several docks are reportedly located illegally on one of Minden's shoreline road allowances on Lake Kashagawigamog, off Kelson Rd. The only difference is they're not in front of homes or cottages.

Councillor Grant Plooard questioned whether taking a stand on the issue would avoid one set of problems but create another when the municipality is forced to remove all of the docks that were placed illegally.

"I have concerns all the way around on this thing," said deputy-reeve Jerry Rome.

"I don't see an easy solution with this. I see a lot of problems. I can't support this request," said Reeve Anthon.

The other councillors voted against granting the request, as well.

Insurance problems

After one of its members was injured in an accident while volunteering his time, Minden's community police support association is seeking its own insurance coverage.

But it appears finding an insurer may very complicated — and costly.

Council invited a representative from its own insurance company to discuss coverage options with members of the association.

Paul Dorman, of Jardine OME Insurance, presented a long list of concerns that would need to be satisfied before the firm would look at insuring the association.

The company would only offer coverage to the association by tacking it onto the municipality's policy, Dorman said. That would require the association to become a formal committee of council.

And any claims filed by members of the association would increase the municipality's premiums, he pointed out.

Council "is not enthusiastic" about taking another committee under its wing, Reeve Anthon told Cheryl

Hie, chair of the community police support association.

"We've got our hands tied. We're a non-profit organization. We don't have X-number of dollars to pay for insurance," said Hie. "... We can't do anything without insurance."

Hie said she had spoken to a variety of insurance companies and was having difficulty arranging coverage.

The association became interested in insurance after one of its members was injured in February while conducting association business and had to miss time from work because of his injury, she said.

Typically, when the association works for a group, conducting traffic control or other duties, its members are covered under the group's insurance for the day. But in this case, the group's insurance didn't include

coverage for accidental injury.

Even if his company agreed to insure the association, Dorman explained the policy wouldn't cover accidental injuries, either.

Like employees who work for the municipality, association members would have to arrange their own private coverage for accident insurance.

Dorman suggested that Hie approach the OPP to see whether the association could be covered under its policy.

HCDC rep

Glen Hall has been selected as a representative for the municipality on the Haliburton County Development Corporation's board of directors.

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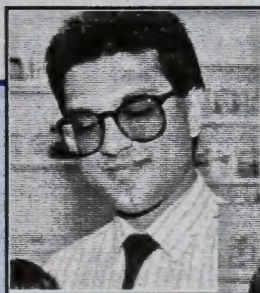
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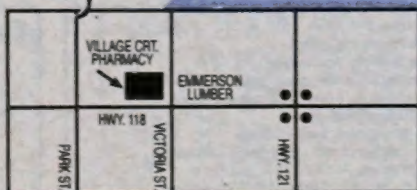
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Haliburton County is finally getting the healthcare facilities it deserves, but these facilities do not come cheaply. The provincial and federal government are chipping in more than two-thirds of the total cost, and now it's up to the county to raise the final \$6-million.

When we say "the county", it doesn't mean the formal political structure governed by county council. It means all those people who have a stake in ensuring that when they need help, it's going to be there.

echo

editorial

martha perkins

Fundraising has been going on for years, beginning in earnest last August with the gala dinner and

dance. Over the autumn, winter and spring, there have been numerous other occasions which have prompted people to dip into their wallets.

As with all such things, however, it often seems to be the same faces at many of the fundraising events. Because of the worthwhile nature of the cause, people don't really mind, but there is a bit of donor burnout being felt. That's why it's so important to have an infusion of new support from cottagers who are arriving at their Highlands retreat for the summer. Cottagers, seasonal residents or however you like to be called - this county needs you. Not as cash cows, but as a new, fresh set of people who care deeply about the Highlands.

At the recent Canning Lake property owners association, executive members worried that if the association made a donation, individual members would feel they've done their duty and not make their own donations. This is a risk, but it is equally likely that the people who feel strongly are going to make a donation whether the association does or not, and the people who think it's not something which concerns them won't make a donation whether the association does or not. Better then to get both the association's donation and the individual members' donation, all the while reminding everyone that they all benefit from having improved healthcare facilities.

County councillors decided to give it a year, or perhaps even a summer, to see whether the influx of seasonal residents made a significant boost to the fundraising campaign's coffers before they make a decision on their next step. One of the ideas being bandied about is a \$100 one-time levy on each and every property tax bills. With the reduction in property taxes made possible by the province's 10 percent cut in education taxes, this might be the ideal time for such a levy. Property owners who balk at the idea should remember that the county has guaranteed "the county's" share of the costs. If the money isn't in the coffers of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, then the county will have to borrow the money, thus incurring a cost for property taxpayers anyway.

But still, many local politicians want to wait and see how the summer unfolds. They worry that a one-time levy will backfire the way the Canning Lake association worries that an association donation would make people feel they've already done their bit and don't need to contribute more.



Butterfly beauty

by Len Pizzezy

letters to the editor

DyMo bus important service for retirees

To the Editor:

Haliburton, a wonderful place to retire to - not, without the Dymo bus, or similar service firmly in place.

It has been 10 years since I became a wheelchair user and my van (with lift) has given me the freedom to go, as needed, to medical appointments, out for dinner, or just plain out.

Fortunately, I show less age than the van does, but I worry about "it"; what will I do when it is no longer here for me?

Transportation for people using wheelchairs is difficult to obtain 'down south', in York Region, where we reside for the six months we aren't at the Scout Reserve, but we were reassured in our search for a new home by the knowledge that Haliburton was forward thinking and community members with special needs were recognized and assisted by the municipality.

This was my husband Ab's and my belief; what will the reality be?

Barb Morrow,
Haliburton Scout Reserve

Bureaucracy, lack of sense create dump dilemma

The following letter was first sent to Donna McCallum, Clerk of Dysart et al.

We are writing in connection with the recent changes to the waste disposal regulations. Many Soyers Lake residents, permanent and seasonal, have been purchasing passes and using the Haliburton dump, some for more than 45 years. These residents have been shopping and doing most of their business in Haliburton. We feel that disallowing us the use of the Haliburton dump is unfair and confusing. Most of our garbage is generated through purchases of items in Haliburton. Haliburton dump is the closest dump to the residents of Soyers Lake.

According to the Haliburton Echo, April 27, 1999, "the Ministry has ordered municipalities to stop swapping garbage" and that this has been a violation of the rules. Perhaps the fact that municipalities have been doing this is a reflection of the fact that it makes sense to swap. Haliburton is not the only municipality to use swapping as a method of dealing with waste. The suggestion that an acceptable solution would be county administration, so that anyone could use whichever dump is most convenient, proves that

garbage swapping is not the real issue. The problem is a bureaucracy with rules that ignore the local geography and common-sense. Toronto sends some of its garbage to Kirkland Lake. Hamilton receives and burns garbage from Halton. There are probably many other examples.

If it is impossible to allow the residents of Soyers Lake the use of the Haliburton dump, the installation of a garbage transfer station, as mentioned in the above article, would be essential to relieve the consequences of this unnecessary decision.

Lisa A. Good,
Director,
Soyers Lake
Ratepayers Association

your letters

The Echo welcomes Letters to the Editor.

Submissions must be signed, dated, and include a telephone number of verification.

The Echo reserves the right to edit submissions for taste, legality and brevity.

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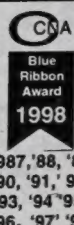


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1987, '88, '89,
'90, '91, '92,
'93, '94, '95,
'96, '97, '98

'Bearly' able to read

IT WAS THE KIND OF EVENING that made Kate want to be anywhere but at a meeting. The sky was a soft, eggshell blue with just a hint of pink to indicate the sun was lowering toward the horizon. Indoors, the florescent lighting showed the fatigue on everyone's face, as though they would all rather be somewhere else at this end of a long day. As they waited for the others to trickle in, Kate and her cohorts sat, coffee in hands, chatting. The topic of bears had emerged.

"Well", stated Monica, "We have probably the only literate bears in the county on our property. In fact, they can read better than some people." Intrigued, the others asked for more details. Apparently Monica and her husband owned a small camping resort and garbage storage was an ongoing problem.

There was a bear in the area who loved to feast on the resort's garbage. It seemed to take particular delight in waiting until the garbage bin was full before tackling it at night, spreading the mess all over the parking lot. There was only a small open area between the bin and the bush, so the bear could get quite close without being seen. And although there were in fact two garbage bins, people staying at the resort seemed totally blind to the one closer to the campsites and instead, walked the extra few hundred yards to place their garbage in the one closest to the bush. And the bear. At every opportunity, Monica reminded people to place their garbage in the closer bin. But her words did not seem to have any effect.

In desperation, Monica's husband painted a sign that spelled out 'garbage here' in large letters. This he nailed to the side of the underused garbage bin. Thinking they had the problem solved, Monica and her husband waited and watched. The prospect of fewer morning messes to clean up was a very appealing thought. However, their guests continued to walk right past the signed, conveniently located refuse container and deposit their garbage in the smelly, familiar one.

Only one individual seemed to take notice of the new sign. The first night the sign appeared, the bear hit again. But this time, it rummaged through both bins. Obviously the sign had pointed out what it had been missing all these weeks.

As Kate and the others were having a chuckle over this story, Jack's memory must have been jogged, because he recalled a tale a friend had told him only the week before.

Jack's friend lived in a quiet, out of the way location and he truly valued his privacy. There were 'no tres-



sharon lynch

down our road

passing' signs posted on his property lines, to prevent curious hikers from straying. One evening, Jack's friend was sitting by the window, watching television, when he suddenly felt that he was not alone. Turning around, he saw a bear standing on his deck, looking right past him to the mesmerizing television screen. The man jumped up, turned on his lights and made enough noise to frighten the bear away at a full run.

Not two days later, the same fellow was preparing to drive into town. He opened his front door and there, on the other side of the screened door, was a bear. They were face to face and both equally surprised. The bear puffed himself up a bit, Jack's friend roared indignantly and the bear took off. The man ran out onto the deck, yelling for good measure and watched the bear lope across the lawn, without a backward glance. But then it did an odd thing and this, Jack's swears his friend told him. As the bear was running away, it passed one of the 'no trespassing signs' and stopped long enough to rake the board with its claws. A kind of protest, perhaps. Another literate bear.

At the end of this last tale, Kate noted that in both stories, signs appeared to be well within a bear's grasp. However, she said that anything longer - say, a paragraph or two, well, that might be pushing it. After all, Kate mused, they may not have the attention span to stand still long enough to read something that long. And besides, since bears are supposed to be near sighted, the lettering would be too small for them to see it clearly. On the other hand, if they had the right kind of glasses ...



ON SATURDAY, Camp Medeba in West Guilford celebrated its birthday. In 1952, the Christian camp was opened by Stuart Wilson, who also helped to establish the West Guilford Chapel. The camp's main building, which still exists but in a remodelled form, was once the homestead of the Griffiths family. Here, the first campers fete the camp's opening.

pic of the past

Bear kits won't work in 'real world'

To the Editor:

I was intrigued by last week's letter from Rob Sinclair of the International Fund for Animal Welfare. While I can agree with him on the wisdom of ending the spring bear hunt (although a three-year phase-in may have made more sense for the outfitters), I can't believe he thinks methods used by "trained officials" in California are suitable for cottagers and residents up

here.

We don't need frightened mothers trying to get close enough to mama bear to use her purse-sized pepper spray on them! And if the pyrotechnics are fireworks, they're as likely to get you a fine for setting the woods on fire as scaring off the bears.

The best advice is still to get as much space as you can between you and the bear and train your kids to do the same. I

think Mr. Sinclair might consider taking a trip north of Highway 7 one day soon to talk to people like Reeve Fearrey, Bruce Sawyer, and the experts here at the MNR. It's only 120 miles, and for the Ontario representative it is the real world. When was California the real world anyhow?

Harvey M. Clarke,
Donald

Bear kits should have good pair of runners

To the Editor:

I think the bear control kits, that the Schad Foundation and the IFAW are pushing, should also include a roll of toilet paper and a good pair of running shoes.

Jack Campbell,
Wenona Lake

Many made bike rodeo a success

To the Editor:

I am writing as a follow-up to the bike rodeo, barbecue and car wash which we held at the Haliburton Community Centre on Saturday, June 12.

Even though the turnout to the bike rodeo was somewhat disappointing (no doubt, due to the very hot weather), the kids that attended learned some valuable safety information.

The day provided us the opportunity to raise awareness about acquired brain injury, injury prevention and to raise much needed funds to provide support and services to brain injury survivors in Haliburton County.

We would appreciate the opportunity to thank the many people who helped make the day successful.

Special thanks to Glen Sharpley of Sharpley Sports for the donation of three bike helmets; to Larry Hartin of Mingles Restaurant for the donation of his truck, barbecue, hot dogs and his full support and cooperation; Karen O'Connor for propane; Donna McCallum and the Council for use of the Community Centre, and the following volunteers from the area: Faith Aggett, Naomi Stephenson, Carolyn Ferguson, Amanda Lawlor, Nathan Stephenson, Jason Scott, Rachel Anderson, Mark Wheeler and Izzy Dedman.

We sincerely appreciate the tremendous cooperation from all who were involved.

Larry Heard,
Awareness Coordinator

Parents need to teach kids respect

To the Editor:

Re: Keeping our children virgins letter in last week's issue.

We need to teach our children personal responsibility, self-respect, respect for others, and help them develop a hefty self-esteem. If they value and respect themselves, they are less likely to give themselves away. This should include the young men as well as the young women.

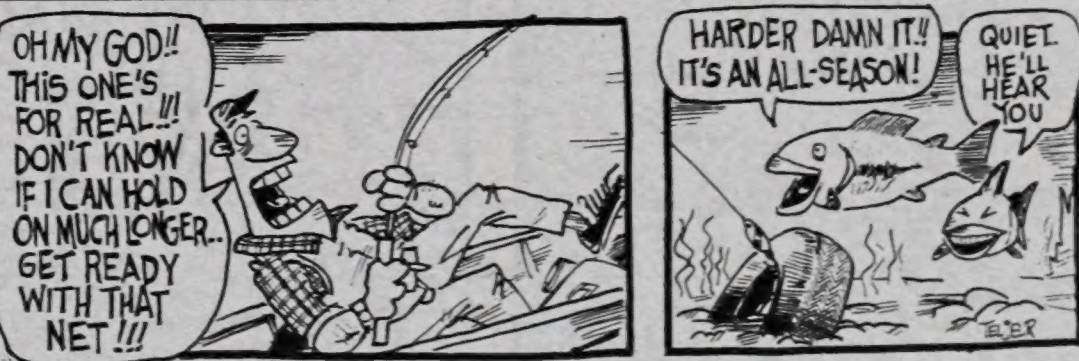
As a child's basic character is well established by the age of seven, she/he must be taught

these values before the child enters school. This should be done with love, patience and encouragement, not by threatening, punishing, or belittling the child. The latter three discourage self-esteem and respect.

Parents want their children to have a better childhood than they had, but they go too far. Too much freedom, too many material things, too few values.

E. Rudd,
Haliburton

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur





Tuesday, July 13, 1999
Page 8

echo news this week



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Let the Highland Games begin



Photos by
**PETER
DOWNS**



Saturday's Highland Games in Haliburton drew hundreds to Head Lake Park to watch traditional heavy games, Highland dancing, bands and demonstrations by the Re-enactment Society of Canada. Clockwise, from top, right: the pipe and drum bands march down main street; two Highland dancers compete; the Incorporated Militia of Upper Canada marches; a competitor throws a stone in the heavy events; a young band member carries a flag; and a young dancer performs. Centre, top a competitor throws the hammer and, below, three young girls in period costumes feed the ducks.

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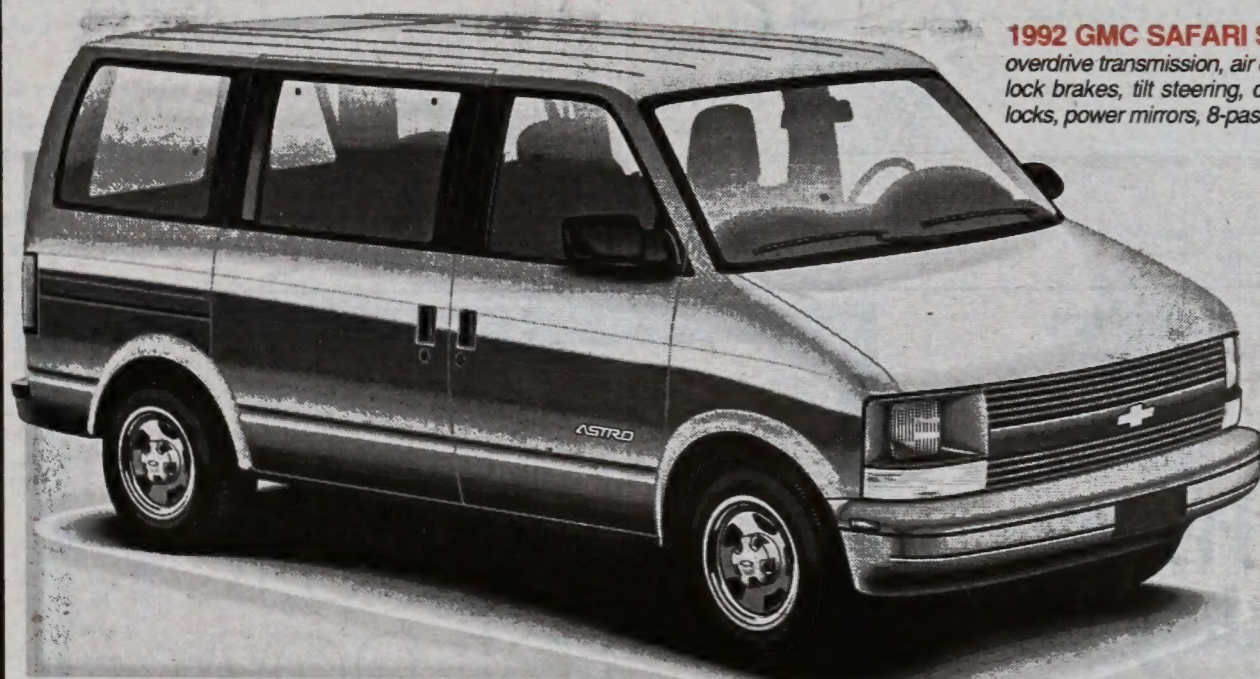
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Yee haw!

■ 150 Rodeo kayakers whoop it up at Gull River Festival

DIANA ZLOMISLIC

Staff Reporter

About 150 kayakers from as far as New Zealand, parked, played and bonded at the Gull River Festival earlier this month at Minden's white water reserve.

"However hokey this sounds," says rodeo kayaker Neal Burnham, "I think there's a bond between people when you're going down the river because there's an element of danger."

(Note: in playboating, the paddler generally only stays within a specific area of the water while river running incorporates longer stretches of open spaces, making it potentially more dangerous.)

Since the Gull River is only 700 metres long, most kayakers use the reserve to refine tricks like

kartwheeling.

"You can spend the whole afternoon playing in one spot," says Burnham, adding that this is where the phrase "park and play" came from.

Considering the trend in boat manufacturing design that is leaning towards building more rodeo-style playboating crafts, our local reserve is sure to benefit.

And Gull River is rated the number one natural site on the world cup circuit, according to Tom Lambert, Gull River Committee Chair.

It also helps that the sport is so aesthetically appealing, Lambert adds.

"Playboating appeals to young people," he says.



WILD & WHITE: A paddler in his C-1 negotiates some rapids before the freestyle event

"It's a very TV friendly sport. The boats are cool – cut in with that whole snowboarding/music scene."

Playboaters also tend to be more amicable, says Burnham, and more willing to point out helpful maneuvering strategies to one another on the water.

Beyond that, the uncompetitive version of kayaking is way more accessible to paddlers for a number of reasons.

One, you don't have to travel to Virginia or the Zambesi to find a raging river that's long and complicated enough to negotiate.

Two, the boats' new designs make tricks much easier. (The bottom of the boat is like a cafeteria tray that spins really easily, unlike crafts of the past where you had to be a master to pull a 360).

And three, (which sums up one and two) – people are finding that they can get better, faster. Rocks in the middle of rivers become play spots rather than hindrances.

While the majority of the kayakers that turned out to the Gull River were more interested

in play, there were a few who wanted to test their skills in a freestyle competition.

Check the listing below to see how the freestylers fared.

For more information on upcoming kayaking events around the area, you can log onto the Net at www.wildrock.net

The following are the results of the competition:

Advanced Men's Kayak: 1st - Tyler Curtis, Ottawa; 2nd - Kevin Varette, Ottawa.

Advanced Women's Kayak: 1st - Simone, New Zealand; 2nd - Julie Dion - Montreal.

Intermediate Men's Kayak: 1st - T.J. Tiedje, Lakefield; 2nd - Sandy Paries, Lakefield; 3rd - Cale Reeder, Peterborough.

Intermediate Women's Kayak: 1st - Dianne Rogers, Peterborough.

Advanced Men's C-1; 1st - Joe Langman, Barrie.

Intermediate Men's C-1: 1st - Graham Harada, Camp Kandalore.



HEY PARTNER!

At left, Joanna Baker and Rob Dorcas, a Teva apparel representative, take some time off work to test the waters. At right, two unidentified kayakers storm the rapids.

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Did you know if you're organized your life runs much smoother? I have a friend helping me get my life organized and it sure does take the stress off when you can actually go into your office and find whatever you're looking for.

Nowadays we need to make our lives as stress-free as possible. Believe me -- I know what that's like. My office was a disaster area until this friend of mine came to my rescue.

Teach everyone in your family to put things back where they got them. If you put back what you take out, your house-keeping days will be shorter.

Recipe of the week:

Jello with fresh strawberries

1 package strawberry Jello
1 cup of strawberries
Make Jello, pour strawberries on and enjoy. Pretty easy but tasty.

Ski Patrol starts thinking snow in July

■ Sir Sam's recruits patrollers over summer for fall training

Yes, it is only July and Sir Sam's Ski Patrol is already thinking about the start of the season at Eagle Lake. The summer is the time for planning patrol activities including recruiting new patrollers before training begins on September 25.

What does the Ski Patrol do? Our aims and objectives are to assist in reducing ski accidents, provide remedial and First Aid services for injured skiers, promote and encourage safe skiing and to have fun. The ski conditions at Sir Sam's are excellent every year, and the Ski Patrol has a superior facility to administer first aid, store our ski equipment and meet together as part of a great patrol. In April, Sir Sam's Ski Patrol won a number of awards including the Patrol of the Year for Kawartha Zone.

To be a member at Sir Sam's, patrollers must complete First Aid and CPR training every year, pay a membership fee of under \$80, obtain a patrol jacket and first

aid kit, and commit to approximately 20 days per season for training and patrol duties.

Patrollers are able to ski any time at their home resort and can arrange to visit other resorts as visiting patrollers, and you will not be charged for lift tickets. You will receive superior First Aid and CPR for free, and you will become part of a respected volunteer organization where you will play an important role in promoting safe skiing. You will also have

the opportunity to make new friends and have fun. Sir Sam's Patrol members hold a lot of social events throughout the year including golf tournaments, canoe trips, ski trips and barbecues.

To find out more about joining the patrol for the 1999-2000 season, contact Matthew or Karen Short in Fenelon Falls at 705-454-2847, e-mail krs@kawartha.net or Lisa Malott in Haliburton at 705-457-9203 before August 10.

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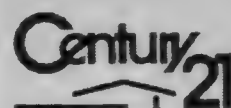
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MNR extends fall bear season after cancelling spring hunt

The Ministry of Natural Resources has expanded the fall black bear hunting season in Ontario.

Under a new regulation, the fall black bear hunting season in many areas will open up to two weeks earlier. The new opening

dates for the fall black bear season are:

- August 15 for areas north of the French and Mattawa rivers;
- The Tuesday after Labour Day for most of south-central Ontario, including Parry Sound, Bracebridge, Ottawa and

Carleton Place;

- September 1 (no change) for the area generally east and south of Algonquin Provincial Park, including Mattawa, Pembroke, Bancroft, Haliburton, Minden and Tweed.

The ministry intends to consult

the public to determine whether, in the future, the expanded season for the fall bear hunt should apply to specific Wildlife Management Units. MNR will include the Fish and Wildlife Advisory Board, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and

Hunters, and the Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters Association, in discussions.

The ministry is taking steps to enhance its collection of data on black bear hunting activities. Mandatory reporting for non-resident hunters is currently in place. Late this fall, MNR will contact all resident bear licence holders to request reports on their hunting activities for the 1999 season. Early in the year 2000, the government proposes to expand mandatory reporting by bear hunters to include reports from resident hunters.

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Longer fall bear hunt won't replace lost season, says OFAH

An extended fall bear hunting season announced this week by the Ministry of Natural Resources will not replace the cancelled spring hunt, but may help reduce nuisance bear problems, says the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

And, although the government's intentions may be well meaning, further work must be done to study, analyze, and consult with hunters to determine if and where fall bear seasons should be extended, says OFAH Executive Vice-President Rick Morgan.

"We believe that you cannot look at the entire southern region of the province, or the entire northern region and standardize hunting season. In a system similar to moose or deer seasons, fall bear hunting should be maintained or extended depending on current situations in each wildlife management unit," Morgan suggests. There are about 150 Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) in Ontario, each one designated to fall under specific guidelines and rules for the management of natural resources, including bears.

When the government earlier this year announced its intentions to end the spring bear hunting season, the OFAH warned that there would be an increase in nuisance bear problems. So far this year, those predictions appear to be accurate with reports of bears damaging property and killing livestock. In some cases, parents fear for their children's safety because of nuisance bears.

A fall hunt may help reduce nuisance animals by installing a fear of humans and controlling the numbers of juvenile bears that are most commonly associated with problems. An extended fall hunt may also benefit some tourist outfitters and increase hunting opportunities.

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters will work with the government to extend and expand hunting opportunities, Morgan adds.

Running for a piece of the pie:

□ *Rhubarb run tempts many with pastry prize*

DIANA ZLOMISLIC

Staff Reporter

The entire Paton family participated in last Saturday's fourth annual Rhubarb Run at Eagle Lake, including the athletic couple's seven-week-old baby, Elizabeth.

"She's just starting out," Jennifer Paton said of her tiny daughter, "but we'll be going on more runs."

Running, stroller in forward grasp, the mom and Haliburton high school teacher finished the 5.6 km race in a time of 34 minutes and 19 seconds. Not bad for someone who's less than two months out of the labour room and pushing a jogging stroller to boot.

Her husband Blake, a local elementary school teacher and avid cross-country skier, finished in the top five (but he wasn't pushing the baby).

Leading the pack of 37 runners, Ian Moorhouse, the former organizer of the event who now resides in Toronto, swept the competition in a time of 18.56 - 21 seconds ahead of runner-up Bernie Hogan.

In the women's division, cottager Sarah Newman qualified for the prize pie and a T-shirt, clocking the end of her run at 22.48. Newman, whose sister held the same honour last year, finished fourteenth overall.

Event organizers Wendy and Rob Hill of Hill Chiropractic and Physiotherapy estimated that about two thirds of the racers were local.

The Patons are among the core of local athletes who participated.

Paton said she had been cross country skiing until the seventh month into her pregnancy. For the last two months, during April and May, she switched to lower impact activities such as walking and swimming at Wigamog.

Paton said she looks forward to future competitions and hopes to compete in the End of Summer Dash for



READY, SET, RHUBARB:

Eagle Lake's 5.6-kilometre Rhubarb Run drew a core of local runners, including Jennifer Paton, far left, and her seven-week-old daughter, Elizabeth. Ian Moorhouse, a former Highlander, led the pack of 37 runners with a time of 18.56. Below, racers leave the start line at Moose Woods Trails.

Kash in August.

The following are the results of the race:

1. Ian Moorhouse, 18.56; 2. Bernie Hogan, 19.17; 3. Andy Salvatori, 19.25; 4. Adam Morrison, 19.26; 5. Blake Paton, 19.42; 6. Mike Armstrong, 20.09; 7. Brad Bechard, 21.17; 8. Mike Darlington, 21.25; 9. Kevin Dekock, 21.29; 10. Steve Ferracuti, 21.47; 11. Bob Heyes, 21.58; 12. Marcel Crete, 21.59; 13. Brian Holowachuk, 21.59; 14. Sarah Newman, 22.48; 15. Bruce Griffith, 23.20; 16. J.D. Bishop, 23.24; 17. Gary Bray, 23.54; 18. Norm Bottum, 24.45; 19. Larry Brennan, 24.46; 20. Trina Baird, 25.11; 21. JoAnn Moffat, 25.20; 22. Cal Orok, 25.41; 23. Len Pizzezy, 26.18; 24. Kit Pizzezy, 27.03; 25. John Vanderhorst, 27.08; 26. Ron Reid, 27.10; 27. Lloyd Johnson, 28.27; 28. Jay Vanderhorst, 29.21; 29. Ted Schipper, 29.27; 30. Jane Heyes, 29.36; 31. Toss Reid, 32.01; 32. Ryan Bottum, 33.01; 33. Janet Bottum, 33.06; 34. Jen and Elizabeth Paton, 34.19; 35. Peter Hill, 37.38; 36. Simon Altman, 43.33; 37. Sam Altman, 43.34.



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Canning Lake greets tax reduction with applause

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the July 4 annual general meeting of the Canning Lake Property Owners' Association, with approximately 80 people in attendance.

The announcement that most people's property taxes will go down earned AHM Reeve Jeanne Anthon a round of applause. While most of the tax break is due to the province's 10% reduction in the education levy, she said that the municipality and county have worked hard to keep budgets on line, despite increased spending pressures.

However, tax bills will be late in arriving because the municipalities must wait for figures from the province about commercial tax rates, which are not yet available.

Minden's road program for 1999 includes major re-construction of South Water Street and work on Brady Lake Road. The province's work on widening Hwy 35 is expected to start in late summer. People who use South Lake Road were glad to know the construction is to include a new stoplight at the corner of that road and Hwy 35.

Given the province's ban on Dombind as a dust suppressant, and the inefficiency of calcium chloride on Minden's crushed granite roads, the municipality will "have to start enhancing our hard top program," Anthon said. Hardtopping, however, will greatly add to the roads department's budget.

Snowdon report

Property owners on the

Snowdon side of the lake can expect an overall tax reduction of four percent, said Snowdon Reeve Ross Rigney, who hosted the meeting at his home on Canning Lake.

Snowdon has been able to finalize most of its numbers because there are so few commercial properties in the municipalities (and it's the commercial assessments which are holding up the province.) When people do receive their bill, they'll notice they can now pay a year's taxes over four installments, instead of the traditional two.

Although its dumps are in excellent health, Snowdon is working with Glamorgan to help solve Glamorgan's problems. Not only does Glamorgan have to close its one and only landfill in Gooderham in two years, but residents in the western part of the municipality have been told by the Ministry of Environment that they can no longer drop their garbage off at Snowdon's landfill on the way back to the city.

To get around this new rule, Snowdon is working out an

agreement whereby Glamorgan ratepayers could drop their garbage into a large dumpster placed at the Snowdon landfill. Glamorgan would then pay to have the dumpster's waste transferred to its site.

"We could say no our we could make it easier for Glamorgan's ratepayers," Rigney says, adding its also prudent to lend a helping dumpster. "If people cannot dump conveniently, you see the garbage all along the sides of the road."

For those cottagers who recycle at their homes, they will be glad to hear they can soon begin recycling at Snowdon's two sites as well. "We've got two great dump sites and we have to babysit them so they're here for a long time," he said.

When Rigney asked how many people had visited Snowdon Park, more than half raised their hands. Rigney said the 100-acre park has the potential of becoming a major destination point for the county.

Amalgamation talks are still underway with Lutterworth. "If

we get the right deal, we're out of here," Rigney says of Snowdon's future as a stand-alone municipality.

Membership

With a potential membership of roughly 280, the association already has 210 signed up for this year. Last year, the association raised its membership fee to \$25 a year, and there seems to be very little resistance. Last year the association had 243 members and it's likely it will hit that figure again.

The association's bank account is also healthy, with more than \$11,000 in reserves.

Water quality

Lake steward Gus Janca reported that testing reveals Canning Lake's water quality is consistently in the excellent or good category when it comes to phosphorous levels. Everyone is reminded to continue to tell guests and neighbours not to bathe in the lake and to use no-phosphate detergents.

The fishing is good

Bass fishermen, the challenge is out. Ed Brown recently caught at five-and-a-half-pound, 18-inch bass in the lake, making his the fish to beat in annual bass fishing contest. Last year it was won by Gerry Wright's three-pound bass.

For the future

Sally Moore wants the association to consider implementing some sort of "lawful expectations" of road use, such as being able to walk along the side of the road without being in danger of being hit by speeding cars, ATVs or mountain bikes.

In Memoriam

People took time to remember those members of the "lake family" who have passed away in the past year: Wilma Cooper and Madeline Wagg, who spent 50 years on the lake, Allie Tingey, who died of leukemia at the age of 36, and Bill Anweiler.

Would association donation to HHHSF discourage individual donors?

If an organization makes a donation to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, will its members think they've done their part and decide not make individual donations?

That's the question raised at a recent meeting of the Canning Lake Property Owners' Association.

One of the approximately 80 members present asked if the association was going to follow an example set by other lake

associations and make a donation to the Foundation, which is raising money to pay for the local share of the healthcare expansion projects in Haliburton and Minden. She said it would be nice for the association to be recognized in the local newspapers for contributing to the effort to improve healthcare facilities.

Association treasurer Irving Green said the executive has considered it, but he gave this scenario: If the association gives

\$1,000, that's roughly a donation of \$4 a member "and that's not enough." Yet some members might think that because the association has made a donation on their behalf, they won't need to as individuals.

Wouldn't it be better for the association to encourage its members to make more meaningful contributions?

As an example of the way members can help, he said he had a large dock for sale. Rather than keep the money from the

sale, he is going to donate the proceeds to the Foundation. Or as he said, he'll give the dock to whomever gives a donation to the Foundation.

The woman who made the suggestion for an association donation noted she too has contributed to the Foundation, but a donation from the association would show Canning Lake is "community minded."

The executive agreed to discuss the issue again and no formal vote was taken.

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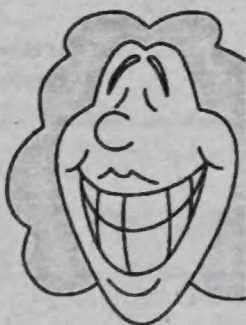
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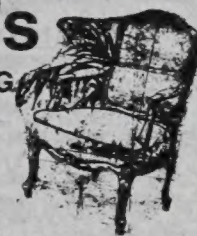
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DIGGIN' IN:

Above, friends, from left, Dillon Metcalf, 11, Jake Hackson, 12 and Taylor Allen, 12, enjoy homestyle flapjacks with syrup. At far right, Stephen Bruzese, 9, of Niagara Falls volunteers to be the dunk tank boy for the day. At immediate right, Yvonne Gazelle, of Eagle Lake, with mother Bhrona Cooper, of Maple Lake (to her left), and sister Elva Lamb, of Flint, Michigan (to her right) hold up a rhubarb pie she baked for sale at the event. Gazelle's was the last pie sold at the event.



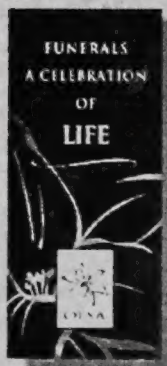
For the love of pie:

Crowds gather at Eagle Lake festival to eat, play and be merry



photos by Diana Zlomislac

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